THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) There are several Plan schemes in the agriculture sector which benefit the farmers, directly or indirectly, in terms of incentives provided to them such as the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), The National Food Security Mission (NFSM), the Macro Management of Agriculture, the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), the National Horticulture Mission, the Technology Mission of Horticulture for North-Eastern Region including Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir, Micro-Irrigation, the Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms and the Technology Mission on Cotton. Government has also approved a specific rehabilitation package for farmers in 31 suicide prone districts in four States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra.

(c) The details of funds provided or proposed to be provided during the last three years and the current financial year under the Plan schemes of the Ministry of Agriculture are as follows:

(Figures in Rs. crore)

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Schemes in Ministry of Agriculture	4,192	5,998	6,927	9,952

(d) Major achievements in the agriculture sector, which have also ultimately benefited farmers, include an increase in production of foodgrains, horticulture products and milk, improved credit flow to farmers etc.

Diversion of wheat supplied to PDS in open market

*32. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has recently asked the Central and the State Governments to follow certain modalities in distribution of wheat through the Public Distribution System to check its alleged diversion for sale in the open market;

(b) whether Government have also received reports that the imported wheat supplied to PDS Centres is being sold in open market;

(c) whether his Ministry has asked the States to enquire into the allegations and communicate to the Centre, the action taken;

(d) if so, what are the details received from the State Governments; and

(e) what are the steps being taken or considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Certain complaints mentioning TPDS wheat (not specifically imported wheat) being sold into open market have been received from some States. They have been sent to concerned State Governments for inquiry and appropriate action.

(d) Reports on Action Taken by State Governments are awaited.

(e) For eliminating such malpractices under TPDS, a 9-Point Action Plan is under implementation in all States and UTs.